Twitter Thread by Adam Kotsko



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My take-away from the Georgia fiasco is that autonomous state-level government simply should not exist. That guy shouldn't be abusing his power, but more than that, the power he's abusing should not even be available. Our constitutional system is a deathtrap.

No one designing a constitution from scratch would give mid-level regional governments so much discretion over voting elgibility and registration. It's absolute lunacy.

What benefit is there to having state-by-state variations in whether felons can vote, in how easy or difficult it is to register to vote, etc.? Why should state legislators get to weigh in on these questions at all? Again, it's just nuts.

State-level control over voting eligibility and registration can ONLY be abused, because it is a power that should not exist. There should be a single national standard of maximal voting availability for all citizens. There is no case for regional variation on this. None.

Indeed, there effectively was a (less inclusive) federal standard before the Supreme Court struck down the Voting Rights Act, and lo and behold, states have used their newfound discretion to deprive people of voting rights! That was the only possible outcome, ever.